(d) if not, the reasons for not showing any interest in the scheme relating to auction centre to be established in the said countries specially in Dubai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no definite trend to indicate such an increase.

(b) and (c) As per information available, the Government of Dubai has launched an initiative to attract and facilitate business in the newly established Dubai Tea Trading Centre (DTTC). This centre is located in the Jebel-Ali Free Trade Zone in Dubai and offers facilities for producers from different producing countries to stock teas for supply primarily to byers in the Middle East, CIS countries and Russia.

(d) No auction centre has been set up in Dubai. However, some Indian companies have already started availing of the facilities of the Dubai Tea Trading Centre.

Social security payment by Indians in America

2966. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian professionals in America have to pay tax, called social security payment, from the moment they get their first pay cheque;

(b) whether this amount is paid back to them with interest as pension, when they come home after retirement or layoffs;

(c) whether these professionals qualify for pension only if they live and work in America for 10 years while their H-1B visas expire after six years; and

(d) whether Government propose to take up the matter with the US administration to reduce the stipulated condition of stay in US from 10 years to qualify for pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per US Social Security Administration (SSA) regulations, only those foreign professionals (including from India) who have been working in the USA for more than 10 years, qualify for social security benefits.

(c) Yes Sir. Only those professionals who have worked in the USA for more than 10 years are permitted to repatriate their pension and social security contributions.

(d) The matter has been taken up with the US Government from time to time. However, no favourable response has been received so far.

Dumping of electronic and other waste in India by developed countries

2967. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that developed countries are using India as dumping ground for their electronic and other garbages; if so, the details of such items dumped in India in last two years;

(b) whether Government has made any study of the impact of such waste product on the environment; if so. details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken so far to prevent it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) The ITC(HS) Classification of Export and Import items, 2004—2009 lays down that imports of hazardous waste into India shall be subject to the provisions of Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2003.

Electronic and other waste is included under List A and List B of Schedule-3 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended from time to time. The import of this waste, therefore, requires specific permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. No such permission has been given by the Ministry till date.

Call for ending farmers subsidies by developed countries

2968. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in his address to the G-20 meeting held recently the Minister